

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Guardian ad Litem Program



State of Minnesota

District Court

County: Northland	Judicial District: Choose an item. Case Type: Juvenile Court File Numbers: 99-JV-18-123
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In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child (ren) of:
Maria Reid, Mother; Sean Thompson, Presumed Father; Isaac Jackson, Alleged Father

GUARDIAN AD LITEM REPORT
Dispositional Review Hearing

Name of Guardian ad Litem: Lori Masters

Date of Report: Six days ago **Date of Hearing:** Today

Date of GAL Appointment: At EPC Hearing 45 days ago

Does ICWA Apply: No, ICWA does not apply as the children are not Indian children

Number of Moves Into Out of Home Placement: Jeremy was born 48 days ago; after his discharge from the NICU 20 days ago he had one move when he was placed in the home of a nonrelative foster parent. Samuel has experienced one move from the home of his mother to the care of his maternal grandmother.

Days in Out of Home Placement: 45

Date of 6-month Permanency Progress Review Hearing: 00/00/00 (no later than 180 days from court-ordered removal on date of EPC Hearing)

Child (ren) Name: DOB, Age at Time of Report:

Jeremy Reid, DOB 45 days ago; Current age 45 days

Samuel Thompson, 6/4/2008, current age 10 years, x months

GUARDIAN AD LITEM RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CHILD (REN)

For the reasons stated below, and based upon my independent investigation and the best interests of the child (ren), I recommend the following to the court:

1. Jeremy Reid and Samuel Thompson shall remain under the care, custody, and control of Northland County Social Services Agency for placement in relative foster care with the children's maternal grandmother.
2. Maria Reid shall abstain from all non-prescribed, mood altering chemicals, including alcohol. Any medication consumed by Ms. Sellers shall be specifically prescribed for Ms. Reid by her own physician, and consumed only in the recommended dosage.
3. Maria Reid shall complete a psychological evaluation and follow all recommendations.
4. Maria Reid shall complete a chemical dependency assessment and follow all recommendations.
5. Maria Reid shall have supervised visitation at least twice per week with Jeremy Reid and Samuel Thompson at the discretion of Northland County Social Services Agency in consultation with the Guardian ad Litem Report to Court – Guardian Ad Litem – Disposition Review Hearing

Litem and the attorney for the child.

6. Maria Reid shall complete a parenting capacity assessment as soon as once can be scheduled.
7. Isaack Jackson shall complete a parenting capacity assessment as soon as once can be scheduled.
8. Isaack Jackson shall have supervised visitation with Jeremy Reid at least twice per week at the discretion of Northland County Social Services Agency in consultation with the Guardian ad Litem.
9. Sean Thompson shall complete a parenting capacity assessment as soon as once can be scheduled.
10. Sean Thompson shall have unsupervised visitation with Samuel Thompson at least twice per week at the discretion of Northland County Social Services Agency in consultation with the Guardian ad Litem.
11. This case shall be reviewed in 60 days.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Changes Impacting the Child (ren) since the Last Hearing:

Jeremy Reid was born 48 days ago. After 20 days in the NICU, Jeremy was discharged and is currently placed with nonrelative foster parents who have special training in caring for infants who have been prenatally exposed to drugs. In September Samuel started 5th grade and is doing well in school.

Child (ren)'s Wishes:

Samuel, who is 10, is currently in placement with his maternal grandmother. He loves spending time with his grandmother, but wants to return home to his mother. Jeremy is a newborn and too young to express a preference.

Permanency/Concurrent Planning:

The permanency plan is to reunify both Samuel and Jeremy with their mother if she completes her chemical dependency assessment and treatment, as well her mental health assessment and any related treatment. If the children cannot be reunified with their mother, the concurrent plan is for custody of the children to be transferred to their respective fathers. The agency is providing services to the fathers to help them build their parenting capacity. In the meantime, the children remain in their current foster homes.

Visitation with Parents/Siblings/Tribe/Significant Others:

The court has granted supervised visitation at least twice per week. Ms. Reid has regularly been visiting both children. For purposes of attachment and breastfeeding it would be best for Jeremy if mother could visit the child more often – but that is challenging as there are not enough people to supervise visits. Mr. Jackson visits his newborn son at least twice weekly and would like to see him more often. Mr. Thompson has not had contact with his son. Samuel wants to spend time with his newborn sibling.

Relative Search:

There are several members of the family that have stated that they are willing to provide assistance and support to the parents and children.

Child Safety and Well Being

Mental Health/Medication: NA

Current Functioning and Behaviors: Both children are doing well in their new environments.

Medical/Dental/Vision: Both children are current on all of their immunizations and medical check ups.

Education: Samuel started 5th grade in September and is doing well in school.

Community Connection/Social/Recreational Activities: Samuel is socializing well with his classmates.

Cultural: No specific cultural needs.

Religious: Samuel attends Lutheran Church and Sunday school with his maternal grandmother.

Safety Concerns: The children are in homes that meet their safety needs.

Independent Living Skills: NA

Summary of Strengths and Issues of Concerns for the Family:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Additional Information:

AMENDMENT OF REPORT

As permitted under Rule 38.05, subd. 1, of the Rules of Juvenile Protection Procedure, the guardian ad litem reserves the right to amend and/or supplement this report as deemed necessary or appropriate by the guardian ad litem. Such amendment or supplementation may be done through a written addendum if time permits or, if time does not permit, orally at the time of the hearing.

OBJECTION TO REPORT

Pursuant to Rule 38.05, subd. 4, of the Rules of Juvenile Protection Procedure, any party who objects to the content or recommendations of this report may submit to the court and other parties a written objection either before or at the hearing at which the report is to be considered. Such objection shall include a statement certifying the content of the objection as true based upon personal observation, first-hand knowledge, or information and belief. An objection may be stated on the record as long as the Court gives the guardian ad litem a reasonable opportunity to respond to the objection.

BY SIGNING THIS REPORT, I CERTIFY THAT THE CONTENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, BASED UPON PERSONAL OBSERVATION, FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Masters

Guardian ad Litem

6 days ago

Date

Certificate of Service and Copy

County Attorney

Attorney for Mother

Attorney for Father Isaac Jackson

Attorney for Child Samuel Thompson

Sean Thompson, Father to Samuel Thompson